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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

GRAND ENCAMPMENT

OF

VETERAN BROTHERHOOD

OF THE

STATE OF KANSAS.

ADOPTED AT TOPEKA, KANSAS, AUGUST 2, 1866.

Atchison:
DAILY CHAMPION OFFICE.

1866.

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25th Jan 1866

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT.

J. E. HAYES, Grand Commander.
H. S. GREENO, Deputy Grand Commander.
HARRISON KELLEY, Grand Marshal.
J. E. BATES, Deputy Grand Marshal.
S. J. JENNINGS, Grand Secretary.
T. J. ANDERSON, Grand Corresponding Sec'y.
J. HUNTOON, Grand Treasurer.
A. DONNEVAN, Grand Sentinel.
EDWARD GILL, Deputy Grand Sentinel.

Corresponding Committee and Delegates to the Grand National Encampment.

JNO. A. MARTIN, A. J. HUNTOON, J. T. BURRIS, JOHN
WEIR, AND B. S. BASSETT.



Committee on Soldiers' Monument.

J. E. HAYES, T. RYAN, G. H. HOYT, C. A. WOOD-
WORTH, JR., O. A. BASSETT, H. KELLEY, S. M.
TUCKER, E. D. HILLYER, AND J. K. WRIGHT.

Executive Committee.

J. E. HAYES, H. S. GREENO, AND S. J. JENNINGS.

IN EXCHANGE

Kan. Sta. Hist. Soc.

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CONSTITUTION.

PREAMBLE.

1601905 W.C.M.
WHEREAS, The power and glory of the United States has been maintained with the best valor and blood of the regular and volunteer soldiery of America, whereof most of the survivors have honorably returned to the peaceful pursuits of civil life. It is hereby declared to be the duty of those who are fraternally bound together by that indis severable chain of love, whose links were forged in the heat of battle, to avail themselves of whatever potency lies in united action, in order to secure to themselves and to each other, a proper respect for their devotion to the cause of good Government, Liberty and Humanity; to aid and comfort their companions, to relieve the suffering and destitute, to secure to themselves and compatriots a just and adequate recognition of their merits, to provide for their mutual protection, and to promote the general welfare of each other; and to those ends do ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I.

NAME AND TITLE.

SEC. 1. This organization shall be known by the name, style and title of the Grand Encampment of the Veteran Brotherhood.

ARTICLE II.

OFFICERS.

SEC. 1. The officers of the Grand Encampment shall consist of a Grand Commander, deputy Grand Com-

mander, Grand Marshal, deputy Grand Marshal, Grand Secretary, Grand Corresponding Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Sentinel, Deputy Grand Sentinel, and Grand Chaplain.

ELECTIONS.

SEC. 2. The regular election of officers of this Grand Encampment shall be held annually, and shall be by ballot.

SEC. 3. In all elections for officers, a majority of all the votes cast shall elect.

FILLING VACANCIES.

SEC. 4. Vacancies in office occurring between the regular meetings of the Encampment, may be filled by appointment by the Grand Commander.

WHO MAY BE ELECTED.

SEC. 5. Any member of the order of Veteran Brotherhood in good standing, shall be eligible to any of the offices of the Grand Encampment.

ARTICLE III.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

SEC. 1. Any person who has served in the army or navy of the United States during the late rebellion, and has finally been honorably discharged from said service, shall be eligible to membership in this organization.

ARTICLE IV.

FEEES.

SEC. 1. The initiatory fees for all subordinate Encampments shall be not less than two dollars, nor more than ten dollars.

ARTICLE V.

SUBORDINATE ENCAMPMENTS.

SEC. 1. The Grand Encampment shall have power

to establish subordinate Encampments, through the Grand Commander and Grand Secretary, to grant Charters, dispensation and authority to the same, and each subordinate Encampment shall be subject to the Constitution.

GRANTING CHARTERS.

SEC. 2. On application to the Grand Encampment by seven persons eligible to membership, a Charter shall be granted to them for a Subordinate Encampment in any proper locality, but in no case shall any such Charter be granted until the sum of ten dollars has been paid therefor into the treasury of this Encampment.

ORGANIZATIÓN.

SEC. 3. The Grand Commander shall have power, *ex-officio*, to officiate in the organization of any subordinate Encampment, or he may designate any member of a subordinate Encampment to perform that duty, and the necessary expenses incurred thereby shall be paid by the subordinate Encampment so organized.

AMENDING CONSTITUTION.

SEC. 4. This Constitution may be amended or abridged at any regular meeting of the Grand Encampment, by a vote of three-fourths of all the members present, and every such amendment shall be reported to and be binding upon subordinate Encampments.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

MEETINGS.

SEC. 1. A regular meeting of the Grand Encampment of the State shall be held each year, on the anniversary of some important battle, at such time and place as may be designated by the Grand Officers.

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERSHIP.

SEC. 1. The Grand Encampment shall consist of representatives chosen by the subordinate Encampments of the State, each said subordinate Encampment being entitled to three representatives, and one additional representative for every fifty members or fraction over twenty-five.

SEC. 2. The representatives to the Grand Encampment shall be chosen by the respective subordinate Encampments, by ballot, at the first regular meeting after notice of the time appointed for the assembling of the Grand Encampment shall have been received.

ARTICLE III.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SEC. 1. At the time appointed for the meeting of the Grand Encampment, it shall be called to order by the chief officer, and if a quorum be present, it shall proceed to business in regular order.

SEC. 2. A quorum shall consist of one-half of the

representatives authorized by the organization of the Brotherhood present, either in person or by proxy.

SEC. 3. The first business after the opening of the Grand Encampment, shall be the appointment of the following Committees :

On Credentials ; on Subordinate Encampments ; on Finance ; on Examinations ; on Unfinished Business ; on the Condition of the Veteran Brotherhood ; on Charity ; on Soldiers' Monuments.

SEC. 4. All Committees so appointed, shall duly report to the Grand Encampment.

SEC. 5. The chief officer shall, immediately after the appointment of the standing Committees, communicate in writing a statement of his official acts since the last Grand Annual Encampment, embracing such information and recommendations as he may deem expedient.

SEC. 6. All other officers shall report to the Grand Encampment the official acts performed by them severally during the recess.

SEC. 7. Each officer and member of the Grand Encampment shall have one vote ; but subordinate Encampments may authorize one or more of the representatives appointed to cast the entire vote to which such subordinate Encampment would be entitled, were all of its representatives present. *Provided*, That no representative shall be permitted to represent as proxy, or otherwise, more than one subordinate Encampment.

SEC. 8. No subordinate Encampment shall have a vote while in arrears for dues.

SEC. 9. No disbursements of its funds shall be made except by a vote of the Grand Encampment.

SEC. 10. All questions except on amendments of

the Constitution or By-Laws shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast.

SEC. 11. Each subordinate Encampment under this jurisdiction shall, on or before the first day of the Grand Annual Encampment, pay the following Grand dues: For each member belonging to the order during the year, fifty cents.

SEC. 12. Extra sessions of the Grand Encampment may be convened, upon emergency, by a majority of the Grand Officers.

SEC. 13. The Grand Encampment shall have a seal of such device as shall hereafter be agreed upon, which seal shall be attached to all acts and communications of the Grand Encampment; Provided that, until such is procured, a private seal may be used in its stead, which shall have the same effect.

SEC. 14. The dues specified in Art. 3, Sec. 11, of the By-Laws, shall be paid in to the Grand Treasurer on or before the 8th day of October, 1866, and annually thereafter, as provided by said section.

SEC. 15. Subordinate Encampments may grant demits to members in good standing, who may wish to remove from one locality to another, and the member holding such demit shall be entitled to all the privileges of other members.



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